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Letter dated 6 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 6 June 2000, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volkan **Vural**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 27 April 2000 (A/54/852-S/2000/370) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contains allegations regarding "violations of the airspace of the Republic" and "of the flight information region of Nicosia".

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called "airspace and flight information region violations" were rejected in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 27 March 2000 (A/54/816-S/2000/263). I wish to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace and flight information region of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the relevant authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever.

As stated in my previous letters, such allegations emanate from the false and unacceptable pretence that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration, which purports to be the legitimate "government of Cyprus", extends over the entire island. This runs counter to the realities in Cyprus, namely, the existence of two politically equal peoples and their respective sovereign states. It is the perpetual denial of these realities that stands in the way of reconciliation between the two parties in Cyprus.

Hiding behind the mask of "government of Cyprus", the Greek Cypriot administration, supported by Greece, is continuing with its military build-up and activities in South Cyprus, thus aggravating the crisis of confidence between the two sides. Only recently, joint military manoeuvres code-named Vergina-Toxotis, were held from 16 to 18 May 2000 in South Cyprus, with the participation of troops and aircraft from Greece.

The Greek Cypriot daily *Politis* dated 25 March 2000 reported that Greece will donate a destroyer equipped with Exocet missiles as well as patrol vessels and other military hardware to South Cyprus. The daily further reported that the Greek Cypriot administration intends to purchase two additional patrol vessels.

The Greek Cypriot daily *Fileleftheros* dated 7 April 2000 reported that the Greek Cypriot administration will be concluding an agreement with Greece, within the framework of the Joint Military Doctrine, which will regulate the status of Greek soldiers stationed in South Cyprus and Greek Cypriot soldiers stationed in Greece. *Politis* also reported that a number of other military agreements will be signed to reinforce the Joint Military Doctrine between South Cyprus and Greece.

Fileleftheros reported on 12 and 15 April 2000 that, in the context of an arrangement between the Ministries of Defence and Education of the Greek Cypriot administration, 4,000 high school students were to visit military camps by the end of May and that such visits will be repeated at least three times each year.

I would like to reiterate that the hostile attitude of the Greek Cypriot administration as well as its misinformation campaign against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is not conducive to reconciliation in the island. My Government expects that the international community will strongly urge the Greek Cypriot side to adopt a new and constructive attitude, particularly on the eve of the resumption of the proximity talks in Geneva on 5 July 2000.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus